

Chepachet Fire District

Executive Committee – Monthly Meeting

March 18th, 2015

The Chepachet Fire District monthly meeting was held at the Chepachet Fire Station on Wednesday, March 18th, 2015. Chairman Earl Newman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Members present were Lynda Martone and Robert Lohr. Also present were Treasurer David Steere, District Clerk/Secretary Darlene Shields, Chief Robert Dauphinais and Deputy Chief Dennis Huestis and Tax Collector Patricia Svansson. Absent were Eric Croft and George Leonhardt.

Chairman Mr. Newman suspended the regular meeting so that Rep. Mike Chippendale can discuss the proposed bills that have been submitted to the house.

Mr. Chippendale advised that the leadership in the House is not looking fondly at the three bills that were submitted as they relate to the fire district. He stated that some of the sponsors have had their name removed from the legislation. Many of the representatives have heard from other fire districts, with the concerns being the same, that some of the bills they would not be able to meet the requirements. Mr. Chippendale agrees that the proposed bills are not in the fire districts best interest and would not support them. He stated that

from what he has heard that they will never come out of review and make it to the floor be voted on with little or no support. Mr. Steere asked is there is a Senate companion bill and Mr. Chippendale stated there was that was submitted by a representative from the same district the house bills came from.

Mr. Chippendale said the bills will be held in inventory and at the end of the session inventories are wiped out and is confident they will not make it to the floor.

At 6:17pm Mr. Croft is in attendance.

Secretary's Report:

All members have received copies of the minutes for February 18th, 2015 Monthly Board Meeting.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the minutes as presented, second by Mr. Lohr and passed unanimously.

Tax Collector's Report:

Mrs. Svansson stated money has been coming in very well and has collected \$40,252.50 for the month of February 2015.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Tax Collector's Monthly

Report for February 2015, second by Mr. Croft and passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report:

Mr. Steere presented the Treasurer's Monthly Reports for February 2015. Mr. Steere indicated that we are 2/3 the way through the year and the expenses are in line at 64%. Street Light and building maintenance expenses are high but the remaining expenses are in line.

Last page of the report \$730,000 in funds of which 330,000 in restricted funds leaving \$400,000 in operating funds.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Treasurer's Reports for February 2015 as presented and to pay the monthly bills, second by Mr. Croft and Passed unanimously.

Chief's Report:

Chief Dauphinais read and submitted the February 2015 Chief's Monthly Reports to be placed on file.

Motion made by Mr. Lohr to accept the Chief's Monthly Reports February, second by Mr. Croft and passed unanimously.

Committee: Charter Committee: To follow this meeting

Rescue Committee –

Chief Dauphinais has been looking into trucks and most of the trucks are coming in from anywhere from \$250,000 to \$275,000. At the annual meeting the tax payers approved \$200,000 which he doesn't feel will be enough to cover the New Rescue truck. Additional funds will be to approved for the new Rescue. The committee has almost completed the specs for the new rescue and will be able to have them ready soon. Our current Rescue is a 2006

Personnel Committee - Tabled

Old Business:

1. Communications:

Chief Dauphinais advised everyone that the Chiefs are looking to move forward with Marcus Communications. The total cost of the upgrade is \$259,000 with Marcus Communications and 1/3 cost to

each district would be \$94,573.06. A proposed 3year term loan would cost \$31,584.35 annually. 1st payment will be due when system is completed. Chief Dauphinais also stated there is also an annual maintenance contract that the 3 districts would split at the annual cost of \$10,300 and 1/3 cost \$3500.00 per district.

Chief is looking for the board's ok to proceed with Marcus Communication and the proposed communication system.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to give Chief Dauphinais authority along with Harmony Fire District and West Glocester Fire District to meet and agree with Marcus Communications, second Mr. Lohr and passed unanimously.

Eric Croft and David Steere excused themselves from the remainder of the meeting at 6:50pm

2. By-Law Changes:

Mr. Newman read the proposed By-Law changes as follows:

Section 2.3 Notice of Meeting (change to add) electronic posting on the Secretary of State's website and (change) publication from 3 to 1.

Section 3 – Heading to be changed to District Election or

Appointment of Officers

Section 3.1 (b) The remaining officer, Clerk, Treasurer and Tax Collector, shall be appointed directly following the annual meeting and their appointments should be for a term of one(1) year.

Section 4.2 Notice (add) Secretary of State's website

Section 5 Executive Officer sub section 5.1.2 Duties – (delete paragraphs 3 and 4 and replace with the following)

The fire district shall comply with the guidelines for financial reporting and auditing prescribed by the Auditor General consistent with Rhode Island General Laws. The District's financial records may be subject to additional procedures as considered necessary by the Executive Committee.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the proposed By-Law changes as read, second by Mr. Lohr and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Shields advised the board that she has hear from Nationalgrid as to how long it took to repair some streets. The District will be getting a \$911.36 credit.

Chief Dauphinais mention that the other 2 district would like to meet next Thursday on April 26th, 2015 if anyone from the board would be willing to attend. Mr. Newman said he would be able to attend.

The next meeting will be the Monthly Meeting April 15thth, 2015 at 6:30pm.

With no further business at this time, motion made by Mr. Lohr to adjourn, second by Mrs. Martone and passed unaimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Respectfully submitted, ~~~~~

**Darlene L Shields
Darlene L. Shields
District Clerk / Chepachet Fire District**